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SAMUEL T. ATKINS.

Born July 21, 1834. Died December 23, 1915.

Samuel T. Atkins, member of the Logan County Bar since 1864, and an active member of the Masonic Lodge since 1861, and member of the Illinois State Historical Society, died of general debility at his home, 829 Pekin street, Lincoln, Illinois, at 7:45 o'clock Thursday morning, December 23, at the age of 81 years. His death at the end of forty-nine and one-half years of wedded life, was the first in his family during that time.

Mr. Atkins had been failing for the past year, more noticeably during the latter six months. For many years he had been living a retired life.

Samuel Thomas Atkins was born July 21, 1834, in Mt. Vernon, Maine, the son of Rev. Charles and Mary Manter Atkins, both of colonial ancestry. Samuel T. Atkins, grandfather, Charles Atkins, was a drummer in the Revolutionary War and was a descendant of Henry Atkins, who settled in America in 1640.

After living until the age of 16 years at Mt. Vernon, Samuel Atkins went to Boston where he studied until 1853. He left Boston early in December, 1853, and came to Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, taking ten days and nights for the trip.

Securing a teacher's certificate, he taught the "Tommy Lucas" school, six miles from Mt. Pulaski. He later taught at "Uncle Davy Evans'" school, the John Scroggins' school, Noah Chenoweth's school, near John Kline's present place. In 1856 he taught a school on Prairie Creek.

During the summer of 1856 he went to Kansas, and later to Minnesota, where he pre-empted 160 acres. He remained until November, 1856, then returned to accept a school at Prairie Creek, which he taught for two years, after which he taught Prairie College school, south of Elkhart.

He came to Lincoln in 1860, working as clerk in the county clerk's office for three years, after which he worked in the Dustin and Musick bank, until 1867. He was then appointed deputy sheriff and tax collector. He was chosen justice of the peace for a term of four years, in 1870. For twenty years Mr. Atkins was a notary public.

He spent most of the later part of his life looking after his property interests.

Mr. Atkins was married in Normal, Illinois, July 14, 1866, to Miss Lucy Bates, a member of an old colonial family. Of their six children, all are living. They are: Miss Mary L., at home; Samuel T., Jr., Chicago; Llewellyn R., Chicago; Herbert R., Tobias, Nebraska; J. William, Berkeley, California, and Walter B., Chicago.

With the exception of Herbert, all of the sons were at home in July, when Mr. Atkins had a serious illness.

Mr. Atkins had always been temperate in habits, using neither tobacco nor liquor. He was a man of sterling integrity and had the high respect of all who knew him.

The funeral service were held at the Methodist Church, Lincoln, Illinois, Friday afternoon, December 24, at 1:30 o'clock, the services in charge of the Masons. Rev. T. H. Tull, pastor of the church, officiated.